



USAID | **AFGHANISTAN**
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

RULE OF LAW STABILIZATION – FORMAL COMPONENT MONTHLY REPORT

JANUARY 1 – JANUARY 31, 2014

January 2014

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DISCLAIMER

The author's views in this publication do not necessarily reflect the views of the United States Agency for International Development or the United States Government.

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ABBREVIATIONS & ACRONYMS

ACAS	Afghanistan Court Administration System
ACT	Anti-Corruption Tribunal
AGO	Attorney General's Office
AWJA	Afghan Women Judges Association
CLE	Continuing Legal Education
CMS	Case Management System
COR	Contracting Officer's Representative
GIRoA	Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan
HR	Human Resources
IT	Information Technology
INL	Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs
ISAF	International Security Assistance Force
JSSP	Justice Sector Support Program
MOHE	Ministry of Higher Education
MOJ	Ministry of Justice
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
PRT	Provincial Reconstruction Team
PMP	Performance Management Plan
RLS-Formal	Afghanistan Rule of Law Stabilization Project - Formal Component
SC	Supreme Court
TOT	Training-of-Trainers
USG	United States Government
USAID	United States Agency for International Development

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Afghanistan Rule of Law Stabilization – Formal Component (RLS-Formal) is a United States Agency for International Development (USAID) funded program designed to increase public confidence in the rule of law system and support the improved performance and accountability of governance in Afghanistan.

The project accomplished the following results and activities in January:

Judicial Education In January, RLS-Formal and other donors to the Judicial Education Department met with that department director to discuss sustainability for the judicial education programs. RLS-Formal and other donor representatives are part of a working group to assist the department in strategic planning, budgeting, and capacity-building initiatives. This month newly-developed textbooks on criminal procedure and counter-narcotics were published and delivered, with RLS-Formal support, for use in courses for the new judge trainings at the Judicial Stage and continuing legal education programs for sitting judges.

Court Management The project completed delivery of a two-week training program to Supreme Court staff on the new statistics database which will improve the efficiency of compiling, analyzing, and reporting data from courts throughout Afghanistan. RLS-Formal also prepared a report on the cumulative results from two Q10 Court User Surveys in which 1,549 court users participated at 42 courthouses in 17 provinces.

Legal Education The annual Philip C. Jessup Moot Court Competition, supported by RLS-Formal, was held in Kabul this month with the winning team from Herat University being selected to represent Afghanistan in the international rounds to be held in Washington, DC this coming April. Students from several Law and *Sharia* faculties participated in various RLS-Formal supported educational programs during their current three-month Winter Break, including legal clinic programs and courses on legal research and writing, legal English, and computers.

Public Legal Outreach In January, the Ministry of Justice, with RLS-Formal support, broadcast a short television program on the law prohibiting forced marriage and information about the rights of women who “run away from home”. The project also helped the Ministry of Justice’s Public Legal Outreach department develop concepts for a new legal outreach campaign to be broadcast through social media sites such as Facebook and You Tube.

Gender In coordination with the Afghan Women Judges Association, RLS-Formal helped to develop materials for trainings on gender and on how to effectively perform administration functions as judges and as leaders of the Association. The project also assisted in drafting public information brochures on forced marriage and the rights of women who “run away from home”.

FORMAL RULE OF LAW SYSTEM IMPROVED

RLS-Formal enhances the rule of law system in Afghanistan by strengthening the capacity of the judiciary and court administrators. The project organizes these activities under Component 1 and Component 2. The objective of the components is to ensure fair, accountable, and transparent dispute resolution in the formal court system and to increase public confidence in the Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan.

COMPONENT 1: CAPACITY BUILDING OF THE JUDICIARY

TASK 1: CONTINUING SUPPORT TO THE JUDICIAL STAGE PROGRAM

- During the month of January, RLS-Formal advisors met several times with the Director of the Supreme Court (SC)'s Judicial Training Department (JED), Judge Akbari, in order to obtain his assistance in arranging a meeting between international donors, including USAID, and the Judicial Education Committee which sets policy for, and has oversight of, the JED. The purpose of the donor's request, which has been pending since fall of 2011, was to discuss the long-range plans for sustainability and capacity-building of the JED. Judge Akbari, appointed to the JED in December 2013, expressed his preference to meet with the donors directly on January 22nd to explain his vision and the challenges facing his department.
- On January 19th, the primary donors to the JED and their implementing partners (USAID, the French Embassy, International Development Law Organization (IDLO), and RLS-Formal) met to discuss and coordinate their support for the JED in the next few years and expectations concerning sustainability. The German-funded Hamida Baraki Organization (HBO) was unable to attend that meeting. The donors agreed to encourage the SC to take an active leadership role in improving judicial education and to focus on capacity-building, strategic planning, and funding from the national budget as steps toward sustainability.
- On January 22nd, the donors met with Judge Akbari and key members of his staff to hear his presentation on the status of the JED and his plan to improve judicial training and develop the technical capacity of his department. The donors shared their thoughts and concerns on the SC's ability to sustain and expand reforms needed to enhance the quality of judicial education with less dependence on donor support in the next few years. They also reiterated their request for information on the JED, including the department's organizational chart, terms of reference for the staff, and the SC budget currently in place to support the department. Judge Akbari was non-committal in response to the donors' request for this information. Judge Akbari's asked for, and received, donors' agreement to participate in a working group to help him systematically and professionally address the challenges and opportunities of his department. RLS-Formal provides support to the Judicial Education Department in order to improve the

quality of judicial education which prepares new and sitting judges to dispense fair and transparent justice to the citizens of Afghanistan.

- On January 22nd and January 29th, Judge Akbari, led the first working group session of the JED donors and implementing partners. The working group includes Judge Akbari, several of his key staff, and representatives from RLS-Formal, the French Embassy, IDLO, HBO, and a representative from a prospective JED supporter, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC). The working group plans is tasked with assisting the JED in drafting a strategic plan, preparing a proposed budget to increase government support, and identifying and prioritizing the needs of the department. The second session of the working group is scheduled to take place in early February. RLS-Formal assists in developing the capacity of the Judicial Education Department, which oversees the induction and continuing legal education programs for judges, in order to ensure Afghanistan's judges receive a high quality education in a professional setting so that they are able to competently adjudicate cases in accordance with the rule of law.

TASK 2: IMPROVE INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY OF STATE JUSTICE INSTITUTIONS INCLUDING ANTI-CORRUPTION COURTS

- In January, RLS-Formal began analyzing data obtained for the assessment of Afghanistan's 15 anti-corruption courts, referred to as Anti-corruption Tribunals (ACTs). The ACT assessment collected and analyzed various types of information about the specialized anti-corruption courts, including demographics of the judges assigned to the courts, number of cases processed, types of cases being filed, common procedural defects in dismissed cases, and sentences imposed. The assessment utilized a variety of sources including questionnaires, informal conversations during trainings, and formal interviews with judges, prosecutors, and members of the international community who mentor and support the ACTs and/or the Attorney Generals Office responsible for combatting corruption, the Anti-corruption Units (ACUs). The findings and recommendations from the assessment were drafted this month and will be reported formally to USAID in early February. The recommendations from the assessment will be integrated into RLS-Formal's work with the ACTs in the remaining months of the project.

TASK 3: CONTINUE PRACTICAL SKILLS TRAINING & CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION FOR SITTING JUDGES

- On January 29th, RLS-Formal delivered to the JED textbooks containing recently-developed training materials on the counter-narcotics law and criminal procedure. These textbooks were prepared by the JED instructors and subject matter experts, with support from RLS-Formal advisors, for the purpose of standardizing and improving the content of these courses. The textbooks will be used in the Judicial Stage, the induction training program for new judges, as well as in the continuing legal education courses for sitting judges. RLS-Formal supports curriculum development at the judicial training department in order to ensure Afghanistan's judges receive high quality legal education.

COMPONENT 2: CAPACITY BUILDING OF COURT ADMINISTRATORS

TASK 1: TRAIN COURT STAFF TO PROVIDE PROFESSIONAL COURT ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

- Throughout the month of January, the Chief Judge of the Herat Appellate Court received a one-on-one tutorial on basic computer skills from RLS-Formal's embedded court management advisor. The Chief Judge has learned to use Microsoft Word, internet search engines, email, Skype, and other computer applications. As the head of numerous courts in Herat Province that have embraced computer technology, the Chief Judge is eager to understand and utilize computers in his own office. Herat is anticipated to be the site of a pilot program to determine whether statistics can be recorded and transmitted electronically from a provincial court to the SC complex in Kabul where the information is gathered, analyzed, and reported. RLS-Formal provides such trainings to build the capacity of court personnel to help them to communicate electronically and to prepare computer-generated court case records, court opinions and decisions, and other documents, contributing to a modern, efficient and transparent court administration system.
- During January, five male judges and court administrators at the Herat Appellate Court and nine members of SC Construction Department staff (6 men and 3 women) continued their computer workshops on Word and Excel programs with RLS-Formal support. The trainings began in November 2013 and are expected to continue through the start of the new Afghan New Year in late March. RLS-Formal provides such trainings to build the capacity of court personnel to help them to use computers to communicate and to prepare court case records, court opinions and decisions, and other documents, contributing to a modern, efficient and transparent court administration system.

TASK 2: DEVELOP SUPREME COURT CAPACITY TO MANAGE BUDGET, PERSONNEL, AND INFRASTRUCTURE

- In January, RLS-Formal completed the second round of interviews for its National Court User Survey. The survey gathered data from interviews with actual court users around the country to determine the public's perception of how the formal justice system operates. The first survey, completed in August 2013, and this second survey included at total of 1,549 interviews with court users at 42 courthouses in 17 provinces. RLS-Formal drafted a report on the cumulative survey results which was delivered to USAID in late January. The project is ready, depending on USAID feedback, to re-visit certain court locations to gather additional data to better understand which programs supported by RLS-Formal have the most positive influence on the perceptions of court users. RLS-Formal surveys the perceptions of court users across Afghanistan in order to evaluate the impact of its programs to improve the capacity of the judiciary and court administrators.
- On January 4th, RLS-Formal installed the Supreme Court's new statistics database on its server. However, the SC needs to procure a new server and software in order for the database to go on-line. The Director of the IT Department is working with the SC Head of the Administration Department to obtain and install the server and software. In the meantime, court management advisors from RLS-Formal met with the Head of the SC's Research and Studies Department to discuss creating a manual and conducting nationwide trainings on how to collect data from courts that will be entered into the central database. This training will take place after the

database is available on-line. The new database aims to enhance case management procedures in courts by improving mechanisms for tracking statistics, such as case type, party names, case status, and filing and disposition dates. These improvements will help court administrators to monitor case flow and enable the SC to allocate personnel and financial resources based on the needs of each court.

- Between January 18th and January 29th, nine staff members (seven men and two women) from the Supreme Court statistics directorate received basic training on the new statistics database that was developed with support from RLS-Formal. RLS-Formal court advisors and the statistics database developer conducted a 40-hour statistics training program to introduce the staff members to the new system. The trainers explained how data from the country's courts can be used to measure case processing time, monitor caseloads, assist in evaluating how resources should be allocated to courts based on need, and other practical applications. The participants also learned how to enter information in the database and use the system to generate reports. RLS-Formal implements capacity building initiatives for court personnel to gain knowledge of essential computer applications to enable them to gather and maintain statistics contributing to efficiency and transparency of the court administration.



Members of the SC staff receive training on newly-developed case statistics database

- In January, RLS-Formal advisors were informed by the Director of the Research and Studies Department that the SC has decided to postpone approval of the Afghanistan Court Administration System (ACAS) Procedures Manual. The Manual is a guide for court administrators and judges on how to use the paper-based ACAS to track cases that are filed in all courts in Afghanistan. The SC intends to discuss, and hopefully approve, the Manual at the Chief Judges Conference which will be scheduled to take place sometime this spring. RLS-Formal advisors presented the ACAS Procedures Manual to the SC for approval more than one year ago, in January 2013. Once the Manual is approved, RLS-Formal is ready to begin trainings on it for court administrators and judges as time allows prior to the end of our project in July 2014.
- In January, RLS-Formal continued training the SC construction staff (6 men and 3 women) on developing 3-D designs utilizing AutoCAD. AutoCAD streamlines the design and documentation processes which have been done exclusively or primarily by hand until recently. For the past

two months, the staff has also received training several hours a week on Microsoft Office to help them prepare work plans and budgets for court construction projects. RLS-Formal assists the construction department of the SC to develop and manage infrastructure projects in order to effectively increase and improve the physical presence of the formal justice system throughout each province of Afghanistan.

- Throughout January, RLS-Formal's embedded advisors at the Supreme Court, provided technical assistance to the staff in the Finance and the Administration departments. Eight members of the Finance Department (7 men and 1 woman) were instructed on how to develop cost projections for the first quarter of the fiscal year. In addition, the transportation staff in the Administration Department (5 men) received technical advice on how to manage their inventory. RLS-Formal provides support to build the capacity of the SC staff to improve the efficiency, accountability, and transparency of its administrative functions.

COMPONENT 3

AVAILABILITY OF QUALITY LEGAL EDUCATION EXPANDED

RLS-Formal expands the availability of legal education in Afghanistan by building the capacity of Law and *Sharia* faculties across the country. The objective of Component 3 is to form a cadre of well-trained and motivated legal professionals who have received a quality legal education in order to provide meaningful access to justice to the citizens they serve.

COMPONENT 3: CAPACITY BUILDING OF THE FACULTIES OF LAW AND SHARIA

TASK 1: CONTINUE IMPLEMENTATION OF CORE CURRICULUM FOR LAW AND SHARIA FACULTIES

- During January, the legal clinic directors from 4 major universities continued to develop standardized training materials to be shared with all public university legal clinics to improve their programs. The decision to develop standardized training materials was made during the National Legal Clinic Conference in Kabul on November 16, 2013, an event jointly organized and sponsored by the Ministry of Higher Education and RLS-Formal. Balkh University legal clinic directors are preparing a guide to orient defense lawyers to the work of the legal clinics so they can better understand, and contribute to, the goals of the criminal law clinics as mentors. Legal clinic directors at Balkh, Herat, Al Biruni, and Nangarhar universities are developing materials for use in family law clinics. RLS-Formal supports legal clinic programs to provide practical experiences for students to prepare them to serve as future judges, prosecutors, legal aid providers, and defense lawyers.

TASK 2: PROVIDE PRACTICAL TRAINING FOR LAW STUDENTS AND INSTRUCTORS

- During the month of January, RLS-Formal advisors conducted computer literacy classes for Law and *Sharia* students at Kabul University. The classes will continue throughout the students' current Winter Break, ending in March shortly before the new academic year begins. There were 47 male students who participated in the computer trainings in January. RLS-Formal supports practical skills courses, such as computer training, in order to develop the students' capacity to research, communicate, and administrate using modern technology in their post-university education and in their future careers justice sector professionals in Afghanistan.



Sharia students from Kabul University take computer classes during their Winter Break

- From January 25th through 29th, RLS-Formal conducted a five-day legal research and writing course for Law and *Sharia* students at Kabul University. The introductory course, offered during the students' Winter Break, covered legal writing, accessing legal materials over the internet and through computerized databases, and conducting research using traditional library resources. These research and writing skills will be useful to the students, all of whom must research and write a thesis paper in their senior year. The practical skills training will also improve the students' ability to perform in moot court competitions and in advance degree programs both in Afghanistan and abroad. RLS-Formal assists Law and *Sharia* faculties with developing a wide-range of skills for students in order to enhance the quality of professional legal education in Afghanistan.

TASK 3: SUPPORT HANDS-ON TRAINING FOR LAW STUDENTS

- In early January, RLS-Formal advisors met with various justice sector professionals in Balkh province to request that they permit university students who are enrolled in the legal clinics programs to visit their offices. The authorities at the local offices of Legal Aid, Attorney Generals' Office (AGO) and Afghan Independent Bar Association (AIBA), each agreed to allow clinical students from the Law and *Sharia* faculties of Balkh University to visit their workplaces, meet with staff, and observe their activities. The opportunity for students to learn about the law through observation in a real life setting is the cornerstone of the legal clinic programs. The clinics help students to understand the practical application of what their classroom studies have taught them only in theory. The legal clinic programs at Balkh University continued during Winter Break which commenced in early January after year-end final examinations. The clinical programs at Balkh University consists of 62 Law and *Sharia* students (30 men and 32 women) studying the practical aspects of civil, criminal, and family law. RLS-Formal supports such programs to provide practical experiences for students to prepare them to serve as future judges, prosecutors, legal aid providers, and defense lawyers.



Legal Clinic students from Balkh University discuss cases with Appellate Court Judge Kiwal (left) and prosecutor Shafiq (right) at their offices in January

- During the week of January 4th, students from Kandahar, Khost, Kunar, Paktya, and Panjshir universities participated in legal research and writing workshops in preparation for moot court competitions through RLS-Formal's support. 25 male students from the Law and *Sharia* faculties from these 5 universities received training on effective writing techniques to prepare memorials, including assistance with proper citation of legal sources. The students worked on practical exercises to strengthen their research skills, focusing on the use of online databases. RLS-Formal supports practical training initiatives to assist students with developing their analytical and critical thinking skills in order for graduates to contribute meaningfully to the justice sector.



Students from Kandahar (above) and Paktya universities (below) prepare memorials and oral arguments for January's national Jessup Moot Court Competition

- During the week of January 18th, after months of preparation, students from 11 universities participated in the national rounds of the Philip C. Jessup International Moot Court Competition. The preliminary rounds took place from January 18th through 20th, with students from the Law and Sharia Faculties of Al Biruni, Balkh, Herat, Kabul, Kandahar, Khost, Kunar, Kunduz, Paktia, Panjshir, and Takhar universities arguing a hypothetical case involving international law. In the final round of the competition, on January 21st, Herat University edged out their competitors from Herat University to win the National Competition. The two women and 3 men from Balkh University will go on to represent Afghanistan in the international Jessup Moot Court Competition which will take place in Washington, DC from April 6th through April 12th. Congratulatory remarks were delivered by the Ministry of Higher Education's head of regulations for private universities, Mr. Masoud Tarashtwal, and by Jessica Zaman, Director of the USAID Democracy and Governance Office. Numerous members of the legal, academic, and international communities were present for the final round of the competition, including United States Ambassador Cunningham, Kabul University Chancellor, Habibullah Habib, and Vice Chancellor, Raihana Popolzai, as well as representatives from INL, IDLO, and the University of Washington. RLS-Formal supports moot court and practical skills programs, such as the Jessup Competition, in order to develop a cadre of well-trained future judges, prosecutors, and defense attorneys with the capacity to provide meaningful access to justice for all citizens of Afghanistan.



Ambassador Cunningham presents a trophy to National Philip C. Jessup Moot Court champions from Herat University



55 students from 11 Afghan public universities competed in Philip C. Jessup Moot Court Competition at Kabul University in January

TASK 4: DEVELOP ADVANCED LEGAL ENGLISH TRAINING

- During the month of January, RLS-Formal embedded advisors at Herat and Kabul universities conducted legal English classes for Law and *Sharia* students during the universities' winter break. At Herat University, 72 students (40 men and 32 women) participated and at Kabul University 20 male *Sharia* students attended the English classes. The language classes introduce Law and *Sharia* students to English legal terminology which is useful to them in conducting legal research, participating in moot court competitions, and gaining access to scholarships to continue their legal education abroad. RLS-Formal provides English language instruction as part of its support to enhance the opportunities available to future justice sector professionals studying in Law and *Sharia* students around the country.



Students from Herat University attend Legal English classes taught by RLS-Formal English instructor during their January Winter Break.

TASK 5: MODERNIZE TEACHING METHODOLOGIES

- In January, all Law and *Sharia* faculties were on Winter Break, except for those at Kandahar and Nangarhar universities. Since professors and the senior trainer from Kabul *Sharia* Faculty were not working during January, there were no training programs to improve their teaching methodology. The professor from Kabul University, Head of the Curriculum Unification Committee for *Sharia* faculties, is tentatively scheduled to assist RLS-Formal in conducting a training workshop at Kandahar University in February.

COMPONENT 4

CITIZEN AWARENESS OF LEGAL RIGHTS AND LEGAL PROCESSES OF JUDICIAL SYSTEM INCREASED

RLS-Formal raises citizen awareness of legal rights and court processes with public legal outreach and awareness conducted through strategic communications under Component 4. The objective of Component 4 is to transfer knowledge and skills to government counterparts to develop a core of professionals with the expertise and experience to implement public information campaigns that increase citizen awareness and develop trust in the formal justice system.

COMPONENT 4: PUBLIC LEGAL OUTREACH AND AWARENESS THROUGH STRATEGIC COMMUNICATIONS

TASK 1: PROVIDE EQUIPMENT AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO DEVELOP PUBLIC LEGAL OUTREACH CAPACITY

- During January, RLS-Formal advisors met with the Head of the SC's Publication Department to discuss a new public awareness campaign using social media. The project presented a proposal to teach the Publications Department staff to upload the content of the SC's weekly television program, *Maref-e-Qazaie*, ("Judicial Education") to its existing Facebook and a future YouTube sites. The Deputy Minister of Justice ((MOJ)) also requested RLS-Formal assistance to upload its strategic communications material on similar social networking sites. Given the growing popularity of social media in Afghanistan, especially in urban areas of the country, modern methods of communication such as Facebook, YouTube, and Twitter, are emerging as additional resources for conducting public legal outreach. RLS-Formal provides technical and other support to the SC and MOJ staff to develop their communications skills to enable them to sustainably implement public legal outreach programs and increase public awareness of citizen's right through the popular media.
- On January 14th, the MOJ, with the support of RLS-Formal, broadcast a television program on the rights of women which focused on the Law on the Elimination of Violence Against Women. The 16-minute program aired nationwide on Ariana television stations during the early evening hours (7:45-8:00pm). RLS-Formal provides technical and other support to the MOJ to develop the skills of their legal and communications staff to enable them to sustainably implement public legal outreach programs and increase public awareness of citizen's right through the popular media.

TASK 2: CAPACITY BUILDING OF THE SUPREME COURT AND THE MINISTRY OF JUSTICE TO CONDUCT EFFECTIVE PRINT CAMPAIGNS

- In January, RLS-Formal completed the design of billboards for the Independent Commission Overseeing the Implementation of the Constitution (ICOIC). The billboards have rule of law messages, including notice of the prohibition of forced marriage and the judiciary's duty to conduct open trials. The project will provide about 50 billboards to the ICOIC in February and, at the request of the MOJ, install an additional 10 billboards in 5 provinces: Parwan, Kapisa, Badakhshan, Herat, and Balkh.

TASK 3: DEVELOP CAPACITY OF THE SUPREME COURT AND MINISTRY OF JUSTICE TO PRODUCE RADIO AND TELEVISION PROGRAMS

- On January 26th, the Director of the Legal Aid Department of the MOJ requested RLS-Formal to provide technical assistance to his staff in developing new public legal outreach program. The program is expected to be broadcast on a new government-supported radio station. The program will be targeted to listeners who are interested in current events involving government and politics. RLS-Formal provides technical and other support to the MOJ to develop the skills of their legal and communications staff to enable them to sustainably implement public legal outreach programs and increase public awareness of citizen's right through the popular media.

GENDER JUSTICE

RLS-Formal advances the rights of Afghan women and girls by building their capacity to meaningfully participate in the justice sector. By seeking to promote women's rights and gender equality, the project aims to enhance women's access to formal justice mechanisms, improve the availability of legal education for women, and foster a society willing and capable of enforcing existing law and Constitutional rights of women.

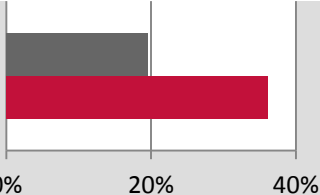
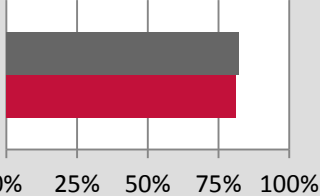
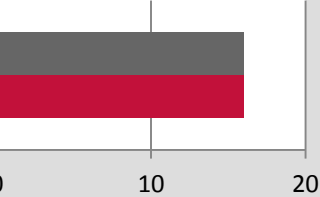
RLS-FORMAL GENDER INTEGRATION & AWARENESS

- During the week of January 4th, RLS-Formal assisted the Afghan Women Judges Association (AWJA) with compiling biographical information on its membership database. The database will contain biographical data on all women judges in Afghanistan and will facilitate the AWJA in communicating its activities, services, and benefits to its constituents. RLS-Formal works closely with the SC to strengthen the organizational capacity of the AWJA to advocate for the enhanced role and presence of females in the judiciary and to inspire more young women to consider careers in the judiciary.
- On January 21st, RLS-Formal advisors met with AWJA President, Judge Anisa Roosuli, to plan gender and administrative capacity-building trainings for members of the Association. Judge Roosuli approved training proposals developed in partnership with RLS-Formal and will help engage women judges to train the courses she has planned. The trainings will be initially be co-taught by RLS-Formal gender advisors and members of the AWJA. Then, as the women judges learn how to conduct the trainings in a professional and interactive manner, RLS-Formal advisors will assume the role of course observers and training mentors only. RLS-Formal works to strengthen the organizational capacity of the AWJA so that it can advocate for a more prominent role for females in the judiciary, expand training opportunities for women judges, and inspire young women to consider careers in the judiciary.
- During the month of January, the project worked with the AWJA President Roosuli to create one-page informational pamphlets on topics concerning the legal rights of women. The two brochures were prepared in January; one explains that forced marriage is prohibited by law; and the second explains that it is not illegal for women to leave their homes, in other words explaining that “running away from home” is not a crime. The pamphlets are expected to be approved by the AWJA leadership in February and distributed broadly, including in gender trainings, women's forums held at Law and *Sharia* faculties, and at events to celebrate International Women's Day on March 5th.

MONITORING & EVALUATION

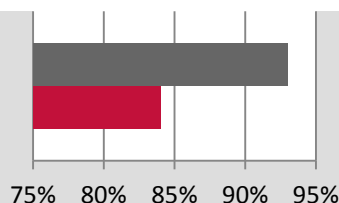
RLS-Formal measures its program performance through 14 performance indicators as defined in its Performance Management Plan (PMP). The project tracks the indicators monthly and reports most indicators quarterly and several semi-annually.

Performance Indicators: Achievements thru Jan. 2014 vs. Cumulative Project Targets

Indicator	Cumulative Targets (■) vs. Achievements (■)	Notes
1. Percentage of court users who agree that a court performed effectively	47%	The project concluded Presentations of Q10 results to 4 targeted courts covered in Phase I and II of the survey.
2. Percentage of the population reached by campaigns supported by USG to foster public awareness and respect for rule of law		Overall, the project reached 38.06% of the population with public awareness campaigns exceeding its cumulative target of 19.50%.
3. Percentage of the population who agree that state courts are fair and trusted	<p>Target: 71%</p> <p>Achievement: 62%</p>	This indicator is from The Asia Foundation Survey 2013 and is outside of the direct control of RLS-Formal.
4. Percentage of judges that complete the basic or “stage” training		The project reported 81% of judges have completed the Judicial Stage against its target of 82%. The size of the 28 th Round graduating class was too small to achieve the target. The next Stage class is double the size of this round.
5. Number of stage trainers employing modern teaching techniques		The project achieved its target of 15 stage trainers employing modern teaching techniques.

6. Percentage of judges that received training on women's legal rights		The project trained 43.05% of judges on women's legal rights exceeding its cumulative target of 28%.
7. Number of judges and judicial personnel trained with USG assistance		The project trained 3,262 judges and judicial personnel, exceeding its cumulative target of 3,227.
8. Number of courts benefitting from improved court management and/or administrative systems or reforms		The project helped 579 courts benefit from improved court management systems, exceeding its cumulative target of 551 courts.
9. Percentage of students participating in practical legal course work that express increased confidence in their ability to enter the justice sector	<p>Achievement: 93% Target: > 90%</p>	The project exceeded its target with 93% of students participating in practical coursework expressing confidence in their ability to enter the justice sector.
10. Number of students involved in practical legal exercises, including legal clinic work, moot court competitions or internships		The project involved 7,039 students in practical legal exercises, surpassing its cumulative target of 3,685.
11. Number of new legal courses or curricula developed with USG assistance		The project developed 32 new legal courses exceeding its cumulative target of 30 legal courses.
12. Level of awareness of legal rights expressed by targeted beneficiaries	<p>Qualitative Level: "Very Aware"</p>	The project evaluated the beneficiaries of its public outreach campaigns as "Very Aware" achieving its cumulative target.
13. Number of print publications, radio and television programs, and other outreach materials produced and disseminated through legal outreach campaigns		<p>The project produced and disseminated 16 radio and television programs accomplishing its cumulative target of 16.</p> <p>Overall, the project has printed over 5.1M publications, exceeding its cumulative target of 5M publications.</p>

14. Proportion of females who report increased self-efficacy at the conclusion of USG-supported training/programming



Overall, the project has achieved a cumulative average of 84% out of its cumulative target of 93%.

Rule of Law Stabilization - Formal Component							
Performance Indicator Data							
Indicator	Second Quarter FY 2014 Monthly Progress			Quarterly Achievement	Quarterly Target	Life of Project	
	Jan	Feb	Mar			Achievement To Date	Cumulative Target
1. Percentage of court users who agree that a court performed effectively	0	0	0	0	0	47%	+10% on Q3 Result
2. Percentage of the population reached by campaigns supported by USG to foster public awareness and respect for rule of law	0.0%	0.00000%	0.00%	2.00%	10%	38.00%	19.50%
3. Percentage of the population who agree that state courts are fair and trusted	0%	0.0%	0%	62%	71	62%	71%
4. Percentage of judges that complete the basic or "stage" training	0	0	0	0	82%	81%	82%
5. Number of stage trainers employing modern teaching techniques	0	0	0	0	0	15	15
6. Percentage of judges that received training on women's legal rights	0%	0%	0%	0%	0.00%	43.05%	28.00%
7. Number of judges and judicial personnel trained with USG assistance	10	0	0	10	0	3,262	3227
8. Number of courts benefitting from improved court management and/or administrative systems or reforms	579	0	0	0	0	579	551
9. Percentage of students participating in practical legal course work that express increased confidence in their ability to enter the justice sector	0	0	0	0	10%	93%	100%
10. Number of students involved in practical legal exercises, including legal clinic work, moot court competitions or internships	184	0	0	184	0	7,039	3,685
11. Number of new legal courses or curricula developed with USG assistance	0	0	3	0	0	32	30
12. Level of awareness of legal rights expressed by targeted beneficiaries	Very Aware	0	0	Very Aware	Very Aware	Very Aware	Very Aware
13. Number of print publications, radio and television programs, and other outreach materials produced and disseminated through legal outreach campaigns	54 and 1 TV & Radio	0	-	0	0	5,171,065 Print, 16 TV & Radio	5,000,000 Print, 16 Radio & TV
14. Proportion of females who report increased self-efficacy at the conclusion of USG-supported training/programming	0%	0.0%	0.0%	0%	10%	84%	93%

Indicator 1: Percentage of court users who agree that a court performed effectively

RLS-Formal utilizes a court user satisfaction survey, or Q10 survey, to gauge the perceptions of Afghan citizens who interact with courts. The Q10 survey results were presented to 4 courts who were requested RLS-F to provide them with the feedback from the survey in January 2014.

Indicator 2: Percentage of the population reached by campaigns supported by USG to foster public awareness and respect for rule of law

RLS-Formal works with its implementing partners to collect data on the number of people reached by its public legal outreach campaigns. Exposure to such campaigns increases the likelihood that a citizen will increase his or her awareness of their legal rights and how to access the justice system. RLS-Formal reports this data quarterly. Indicator 2 is the USAID/Afghanistan Mission Indicator 1.1b.

Indicator 3: Percentage of the population who agree that state courts are fair and trusted

RLS-Formal employs The Asia Foundation's Survey of the Afghan People, Question 79b to measure the public confidence in courts in Afghanistan. The percentage of the population who agree state courts are fair and trusted speaks to the overall public confidence in the rule of law system. The Asia Foundation publishes the survey results annually in November.

Indicator 4: Percentage of judges that complete the basic or "stage" training

RLS-Formal tracks the judges who graduate from the judicial *Stage*, the induction training to prepare a judge to serve in the judiciary. The *Stage* builds the capacity of judges by improving their legal knowledge and professional skills in areas, such as the constitution, civil and criminal code, and the *Sharia* law. RLS-Formal reports this indicator annually when the *Stage* graduates, or when the number of judges changes significantly. Indicator 4 is the USAID/Afghanistan Mission Indicator 1.11.b.

Indicator 5: Number of stage trainers employing modern teaching techniques

RLS-Formal evaluates the teaching techniques of instructors at the judicial *Stage*, including their use of visual aids, learning exercises, student-led debates and classroom discussions. Modern teaching techniques increase the likelihood judges will build the practical legal knowledge and professional skills necessary to serve in the judiciary. RLS-Formal reports the results of its evaluations quarterly.

Indicator 6: Percentage of judges that received training on women's legal rights

RLS-Formal tracks which judges receive training on gender equality and gender justice. The training programs aim to improve judges' knowledge of women's rights and enable them to secure these rights through court proceedings. RLS-Formal reports these results quarterly.

Indicator 7: Number of judges and judicial personnel trained with USG assistance

RLS-Formal tabulates the number of justice sector personnel that receive training through program activities through attendance sheets. The project's training programs aim to assist judges and judicial staff to effectively carry out their duties and instill a sense of the necessity for judicial independence, transparency and accountability. RLS-Formal reports its training data quarterly. Indicator 7 is the US Foreign Assistance Framework Indicator 2.1.2-7. Indicator 7 represents the project's reported number of personnel trained to USAID. The numbers of trained personnel in project activities mentioned earlier in this report represent estimates that may not qualify under this indicator.

Indicator 8: Number of courts benefitting from improved court management and/or administrative systems or reforms

RLS-Formal tracks the courts and court divisions which benefit directly and indirectly from its initiatives to improve court administration and management. Professional management systems enhance the capacity of the Supreme Court to manage its budget, personnel and assets. RLS-Formal reports this indicator quarterly. The courts and divisions benefit directly if they receive a new system or reform, or benefit indirectly if they are helped secondarily by a reform or system. For example, the newly implemented human resource database directly benefits the Supreme

Court which operates the system and indirectly benefits all courts and divisions in Afghanistan by leading to better personnel management of judges and staff at these courthouses.

Indicator 9: Percentage of students participating in practical legal course work that express increased confidence in their ability to enter the justice sector

RLS-Formal surveys students to measure their perception of the quality of legal education at their university's Law and *Sharia* faculties. Practical legal coursework intends to training and motivating students become legal professionals who can offer meaningful access to justice to more citizens.

Indicator 10: Number of students involved in practical legal exercises, including legal clinic work, moot court competitions or internships

RLS-Formal gauges the number of students involved in practical legal activities, including legal clinics, moot courts, mock trials or other competitions designed to hone students' advocacy and research skills, through attendance sheets.

Practical legal exercises complement the theoretical legal education commonly found in Afghanistan. RLS-Formal reports this data quarterly. Indicator 10 is the USAID/Afghanistan Mission Indicator 1.1.2b. Indicator 10 represents the project's reported number of student participants to USAID. The numbers of student participating in project activities mentioned earlier in this report represent estimates that may not qualify under this indicator.

Indicator 11: Number of new legal courses or curricula developed with USG assistance

RLS-Formal tracks the number of new legal courses developed as a result of its assistance to the Ministry of Higher Education. Such courses complement the newly unified core curriculum for Law and *Sharia* faculties by providing the coursework, textbooks, and reference materials for professors to teach their classes. RLS-Formal reports the new legal courses developed quarterly. Indicator 11 is the USAID/Afghanistan Mission Indicator 1.1.2e.

Indicator 12: Level of awareness of legal rights expressed by targeted beneficiaries

RLS-Formal conducts listening groups of beneficiaries to gauge the effectiveness of its public legal outreach activities. Public legal outreach activities aim to increase citizens' awareness of legal rights and process through strategic communications. RLS-Formal analyzes and reports the result of the listening groups quarterly.

Indicator 13: Number of print publications, radio and television programs, and other outreach materials produced and disseminated through legal outreach campaigns

RLS-Formal tracks the public outreach materials produced and disseminated through the Ministry of Justice and Supreme Court as the result of its assistance. Effective legal outreach campaigns require leveraging popular media channels and mechanisms to ensure rule of law messages reach the public. RLS-Formal reports these numbers quarterly.

Indicator 14: Proportion of females who report increased self-efficacy at the conclusion of USG-supported training/programming

RLS-Formal solicits feedback from participants through questionnaires to measures the efficacy of its training programs. Training programs aim to stimulate growth in women's confidence and ability to advocate for women's legal status and access justice. RLS-Formal reports this indicator quarterly. Indicator 14 is the USAID Gender strategy Indicator #3.

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